

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02486 011733Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 /073 W
-----038547 020831Z /10

R 011442Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6727
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY SAN DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR, NU
SUBJECT: DOMINICAN ELECTIONS

1. ALL LOCAL NICARAGUAN MEDIA HAVE FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST THE DOMINICAN ELECTIONS. A MAJOR FOCUS HAS CENTERED ON THE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN PRESSING GODR TO ADHERE TO THE ELECTION RESULTS. THE INTEREST AND COMMENTARY AMONT OPPOSITIONISTS HAVE BEEN RELATED TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER NICARAGUA, TOO, COULD HAVE A REAL CHANGE OF POLITICAL POWER THROUGH ELECTIONS.

2. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, OPPOSITION CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADERS HAVE DISCUSSED THE IDEA OF TRYING TO ARRANGE AN INVITATION FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FOR A BROAD BASED GROUP OF NICARAGUAN POLITICANS TO VISIT AND STUDY THE ELECTORAL LAWS AND PROCEDURES WITH A VEIW TO ANALYZING THEIR REPLICABILITY IN NICARAGUAZM ONE CONSERVATIVE LEADER OPINED THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE THREE EX-PRESIDENTS AS ELECTION OBSERVERS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WAS PROBABLY MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE AS A MORAL INHIBITATION TO FRAUD THAN THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY'S IN-

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 02486 011733Z

TIATIVE IN 1972 TO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN UP TO TWO HUNDRED OAS OBSERVERS TO INSPECT POLLING PLACES.

3. OPPOSITION DAILY, LA PRENSA, IN ITS MAY 30 EDITORIAL ATTACKED THE THINKING THAT TLECTIONS IN NICARAGUA COULD RESULT IN A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER A LA DOMINICANA. LA PRENSA'S ARGUMENT WAS THAT BALAGUER ISN'T SOMOZA, NOR DO TIES EXIST BETWEEN BALAGUER AND THE

ARMY LIKE THOSE OF SOMOZA WITH THE GUARDIA, NOR DOES BALAGUER HAVE THE POSSIBILITY OF DYNASTIC SUCCESSION AS SOMOZA HAS, AND IS PREPARING.

4. COMMENT: THE INTEREST AMONG OPPOSITIONISTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ELECTIONS BELIES THEIR PUBLIC POSITION THAT ELECTIONS OFFER NO SOLUTION TO NICARAGUA'S POLITICAL ROBLEMS AS LONG AS SOMOZA REMAINS IN OFFICE. THIS REACTION SUGGESTS THAT A CONTINUING DEMOCRATIC SUCCESS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MAY CONTRIBUTE TO MORE RESPONSIBLE AND AGRESSIVE NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION ELECTORAL POLITICS, AS OPPOSED TO INSURRECTION, THROUGH ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN ELECTORAL REFORMS FROM SOMOZA.
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Message Attributes

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